

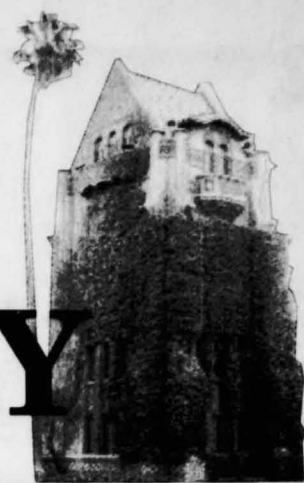


## ENTERTAINMENT

Eugene O'Neill's 'Desire Under the Elms' burns up the stage at San Jose Rep —Page 4

## FORUM

Will the formation of a 'White Club' solve the problems of racism and hypocrisy? —Page 2



# SPARTAN DAILY

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Tuesday

Volume 113, No. 55

Serving San Jose State University Since 1934

November 16, 1999



## Health insurance for students

By Margaret Bethel  
Daily senior staff writer

Nineteen-year-old Karla Lugtu doesn't worry about what would happen to her finances if she were to get sick. Lugtu, a San Jose State University freshman, will be covered under her mom's Kaiser policy until she is 24.

"Hopefully, I'll have a job by then that will give me insurance," she said.

Lugtu said she wouldn't mind

paying for insurance if she didn't have a job to provide it, because she thought it would end up saving her money.

"Considering how much you'd have to pay if you got in a big accident, it's (insurance rates) nothing," she said.

Students who are not covered under their parents' health insurance can go to the Student Health Center, where they are partially covered by a mandatory \$55 health fee, paid upon registering

for classes. However, only about 40 percent of students will use the medical services available on campus during a year's span, according to Robert J. Latta, director of the Student Health Center.

"Ninety-five percent of what can go wrong, we can take care of here," he said. "The difference is hospitalization, surgery, cancer or chronic disease."

Students who want to be prepared for those major medical issues, but are no longer covered

under their parents' insurance and don't yet have a job that offers health insurance, have the option of purchasing student insurance through the Associated Students office.

The student insurance serves as a more comprehensive coverage than what is available at the Student Health Center.

"It (A.S. student insurance) fills in the blank from when you're cov-

See Insurance, page 3

## The realities of meningitis

By Daniel Severin  
Daily staff writer

Editor's note: We're college students. Many of us sleep less than we should, drink too much and eat anything and everything bad for us. The five-day Health Series will examine different aspects of this neglected issue. JO.

Sophomore Debbie Enriquez had never heard of meningitis.

Meningococcal meningitis is a potentially life-threatening bacterial infection that can cause inflammation of the brain and spinal cord, according to Dr. Robert Latta, director of the San Jose State University Student Health Center.

The bacteria that causes the infection is commonly carried by 10 percent of the general population in a harmless state, Latta said.

"No one knows what causes some carriers of the bacteria to come down with the disease," Latta said.

Meningococcal disease strikes about 2,800 Americans each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Meningitis is responsible for 300 deaths each year, Latta said.

College students who live together in close quarters such

as Residence Halls or fraternity houses risk of contracting meningitis that is six times higher than students who do not, according to reports from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

The bacteria are spread through the area and infect the upper respiratory tract, Latta said.

After learning more about meningitis, Enriquez, a Royce Hall resident, is concerned that she may be at an increased risk for the disease.

"Now I'm scared because when one person gets the flu, it spreads like the black plague, and this is even more serious than that," Enriquez said.

A major point of concern is that the symptoms of meningitis are very similar to those of the flu. Fever, severe headache, neck stiffness and mood swings are all signs of a risk of infection, which might make students dismiss these symptoms as just being run-down and tired, especially in the middle of the semester.

Latta encourages students who think they may have been exposed to the bacteria to see a doctor immediately.

"If diagnosed early, it is treatable with antibiotics," Latta said.

If meningitis goes untreated,

See Vaccine, page 3



Photos by Robert Bradshaw / Spartan Daily

Lee Heitzman takes down San Jose State University Judo team member Tyson Mayeda in a randori session which is similar to spar-

ring. Students take turns and switch partners to execute different moves and techniques with one another during practice.

## Youth embodies old tradition

By Ryan McCrossin  
Daily staff writer

During a break in a Nov. 4 judo practice, 14-year-old Matthew Dias looked up at David Williams with large, puppy dog eyes.

Williams, an assistant coach, reached his hand out and gave Dias a playful nudge on the back of the neck, causing the boy to lose his balance, but he quickly regained his composure.

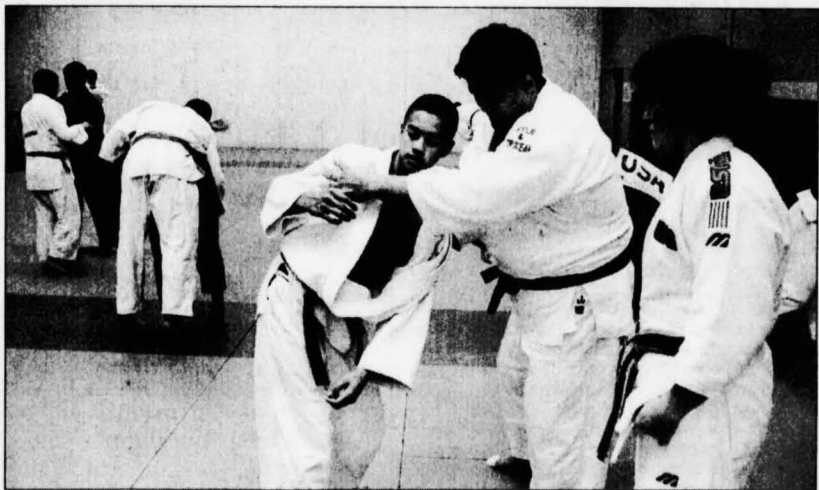
Although Dias barely fills out his judo gi (robe), he comes to SJSU about twice a week to receive little nudges from members of the SJSU judo team because he wants to be able to stand tall one day and say, "I am an Olympian."

He has come to the right place. SJSU judo has gained worldwide recognition since head coach Yoshihiro Uchida took over in 1946. The team has won 35 National Collegiate titles over the past 38 years. In addition, the program has produced 15 Olympians and four Olympic coaches since judo became an Olympic sport in 1964.

"His desire is to go to the Olympics. The only way that's going to happen is to come up here and train with these guys early," said Williams, who began judo at age 5 and went on from SJSU to become an Olympic alternate twice.

SJSU judo has thrived for more than five decades because it doesn't wait for Olympic prospects of Dias' breed to show up on its doorstep. Although this is often the case based on its status as a judo powerhouse, it actively recruits fighters, Williams said.

Every year, the program holds a junior camp and promising young judoka (fighters)



Toshihiko Yamada, a judo coach at San Jose State University, shows Matthew Dias, 14, proper engagement techniques while Sandra Bacher watches during the team's evening practice. Though Dias is not a member of the team, he has come to practice about twice

from all over the world flock to legendary Yoshihiro Uchida Hall to improve their technique and learn more about the program. The current team includes representatives from such places as Hawai'i, Connecticut, Japan, Sweden and Greece.

The team's involvement with local judo reservoirs such as the San Jose Buddhist Judo Club is another way it lures fighters to the program. Williams and SJSU judoka ref-

eree matches at the club, which is open to all age groups. Sometimes they spot a few good fighters, scoop them up, and bring them back to Uchida Hall, where they can "push" them around. Brian Nitta, who is a member of this season's team, came from the Buddhist Club. Dias, who started judo at 5 years old, is this year's "chosen one."

"He wants to be an Olympian. That's his

See Judo, page 6

## In your face



Chad Pilster / Spartan Daily

Cheryl Boudreault, a fine arts major, works on project No. 3 during her advanced sculpture class Monday in the Industrial Studies building. The sculpture is symbolic of an individual. It will eventually have a train inside the head which will represent thoughts that never go off.

## Alien intelligence seeker arrives at SJSU

By Erika Coron  
Daily staff writer

Extraterrestrial intelligence — the possibility of life beyond our own — will be the focus of discussion at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Morris Daily Auditorium. Jill Tarter, known to some outside of the scientific field as the woman whose work was portrayed in the

film "Contact," will be the guest speaker.

Tarter is the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Women of Achievement Award. She has also received public service medals from NASA.

Tarter earned her Ph.D. in astronomy from the University of California, Berkeley, after her initial education in Eastchester,

New York. She worked as an associate research astronomer at UC Berkeley and then became a principal investigator for the Search for Extraterrestrial Investigation Institute, a non-profit organization in Mountain View.

"She is trying to search, in a systematic way, of evidence of other civilizations — as opposed to the tabloid version of aliens,"

said Michael Kaufman, an assistant professor in the physics department at San Jose State University.

The use of radio telescopes to find proof of this possibility will be something Tarter will most likely discuss, Kaufman said. Radio telescopes are used to look for radio signals coming from

See Tarter, page 3



# FORUM

San Jose State University

## The editors take a break to party like it's 1999



Sir Lustalot

JON PEREZ

**O**K, since I have to bail out our opinion editor Melissa Matchak by gracing her page once again, The Jon has decided to extend an idea presented in her column on Monday.

Matchak, in her usual maternal tone, urged students and faculty to turn in plans for New Year's Eve ideas, and since most students, faculty and administrators are apathetic to the point that the Daily could offer \$100 checks and they wouldn't claim them, I decided to offer plans from the Daily editorial staff.

And why not? It is about time we do some self-serving stuff in this paper. And since The Jon is writing it, you know it's going to be done in style.

Mack Lundstrom — editorial adviser: Mack is going to be partying with me. He's a good second-story man.

Jan Shaw — editorial adviser: Jan will be at a car dealership looking for a car that has brakes. Hey, Jan, you can borrow my car, just be careful of my speaker system. Although you might want to listen to my Geto Boys CD.

Jim McNay — photo adviser: Jim will be somewhere in South America bullfighting. After those exploits are over he will read from an autobiography on the comings and goings of some great journalist to the audience.

Tim Burke — production chief: Every New Year's Eve Tim goes to the Himalayas to fill in for the Guru. He was picked because he is the only one who can have a straight face after listening to my theories on my endowment size in relation to vaginal and clitoral orgasms. He always gives the right answer, which is chasing me out of the Daily with a baseball bat.

Jeremiah Oshan — executive editor: To prepare for his free trip to Israel, Miah will be drinking large amounts of alcohol and will shack up with some bum in a gutter.

Leah Bower — managing editor: She will be somewhere in Denmark, trapped because she ran out of money. But since she can pass for a Dane she will knock on doors saying "Bearclaw, apple strudel," until some dummy mistakes her for a relative and provides her shelter.

Mindy Griser — features editor: It doesn't matter what she is doing, since the store-bought princess will spend the whole night making sure her hair, clothes and makeup are perfect, missing the festivities.

Chris Riley — production editor: Chris will be at Las Vegas in his Captain Errection costume hitting on all the showgirls. Hey, Money, ask for Betty. Tell her The Jon sent you.

Melissa Matchak — opinion editor: Since Melissa can't have any parties at her apartment, she is going to go to New York and will proceed to get on Dick Clark's Rockin' New Year's Eve and flip everybody off for not giving her any ideas, which forced her to run this column.

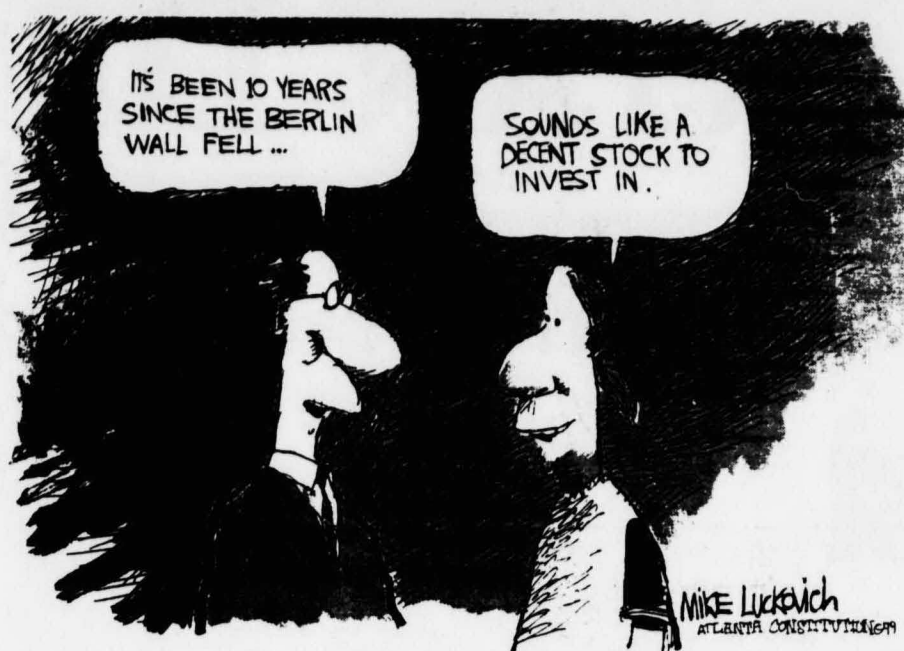
Brian Prince — photo editor: After getting a lap dance at a club on Los Angeles' Sunset Strip, he is going to go on the balcony of the Hyatt Hotel and try to pick up on women by screaming, "Hey, Ladies!" I've seen it happen. Trust me, it's not funny. It's scary.

Lance Swanson — entertainment editor: He'll be at the movie theater picking something other than Lance's pick. He will also be yelling, "Tim, Tiim."

Laurie Phillips and Ginny White — copy editors: Barnes and Noble. Stylebooks. Get 'em. I guess that leaves me.

Jon Perez — sports editor: The Jon will be drunk, hugging all the women at the party. I'm serious, you should see me at The Flying Pig when people are buying me drinks — I'm still trying to hide from a woman in my class who gave me about five hugs after a six-beer, two-Tom Collins-and-Bloody Mary-with-extra-Tabasco-sauce night. Mack will be there telling everybody I only have one night to live, while Aaron Williams will be my muscle. Have you ever seen Mr. Bad Example? That is one big white boy. My goal is to wake up the next morning and say those six famous words: "Honey, who the hell are you?"

Jon Perez is the Spartan Daily sports editor. "Sir Lustalot" appears from time to time.



## The 'White Club' can help fight prejudice

**I** want to start a White Student Association. It's an idea that's been in my head for a while now, but I have always been hesitant about bringing it up.

Hesitant because of what I'm sure is already going through your minds right now.

Mr. Bad Example — racist. Mr. Bad Example — bigot. Mr. Bad Example — hate-monger.

No, no and no.

I am none of these awful, hideous things. Rather, I am just some white guy bumping along through life.

Now before you start writing me that hate letter, please read on and really try to understand my point. If at the end of this column, you really feel inclined to write me nasty letters, then you can send them to the Spartan Daily in room 209 of Dwight Bentel Hall or e-mail them to SDAILY@mc.sjsu.edu.

First things first: I am not affiliated with the Ku Klux Klan, any Nazi-sympathy group or anything like that.

It's just that I have always known that I am a big white guy — your typical Joe Whitey.

I was raised a military brat and spent most of my formative childhood moving from town to town. In each different city I was able to absorb the different cultures of the different people I came in contact with.

Hence, I grew up tolerant of those who were not like me. Hell, when I lived in Hawaii, I was a minority.

As I grew up, I became friends with people not by the color of their skin, but rather by mutual likes and dislikes. I have friends of many ethnicities, and like to consider myself a tolerant person. But at the same time, I'm not a white apologist — I'm proud to be Joe Whitey.

Now, about the White Club.

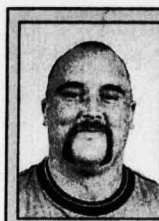
The only reason I even conceived it was because as I looked around — not only campus, but all over — there seemed to be a club for everyone. On campus there are black student groups, Asian student groups, Latino students groups and a Muslim student group. Off campus, there are men's clubs and women's clubs.

Each race — or religious belief — is represented by some group or association. Everybody is a part of some sort of group — except Joe Whitey.

That's because as soon as a white guy even broaches the subject of getting a group of white people together, they're either a racist or a bigot.

But isn't this hypocritical?

I am taking into account more than 200 years of prejudice and blatant racism when I ask that, knowing



MR. BAD EXAMPLE

Aaron Williams

full well that life has not been fair for minorities in America. I know the playing field is not level, and that there is still a long way to go.

However, is it not prejudicial and blatantly racist to not allow me to freely start a White Student Association if I desire?

People of color can get together and talk about their similarities and ways to advance themselves as a race. Yet, the minute two white guys get together and start talking about pride in their ancestry, whispers of racism and bigotry immediately start.

If Jon Perez writes a column about how he has to listen to his headphones in a room full of white people because they don't want to hear his music, he's courageous.

If a former editor of mine says she judges movies she wants to go see by the number of black people starring in the movie — she only saw movies with four or more black people in them — then she's down with black pride.

If I want to start a White Student Association, I am just the typical white devil continuing centuries of discrimination and racial intolerance.

I am of German-Polish-English-Irish descent and am extremely proud that my great-grandparents immigrated to America.

I am proud of my parents who taught me about my ancestry.

I am proud of my parents, who taught me to treat everyone like I would want them to treat me. I am proud of my parents, who showed me that prejudice is one of the ugliest and most evil things on Earth.

I am proud to be a white male — an enlightened white male. I am proud that I will be able to teach my sons about where they came from.

But the most important lesson I will teach my sons is that next to prejudice, hypocrisy is the most destructive thing in the world.

That is why I don't really want to start a White Student Association.

I just want everyone to think about racism, segregation and hypocrisy.

If we spent less time worrying about our differences and more time on our commonalities, maybe my grandchildren wouldn't have to worry about racial intolerance and prejudice.

Aaron Williams is the Spartan Daily assistant sports editor. "Mr. Bad Example" appears Tuesdays.

## The war on drugs is a futile effort to end drug abuse

Prophecies

JEREMIAH OSHAN



**T**he war on drugs needs to end. For anyone who lives on Earth — and I assume that's everyone reading this — the reality is that no matter how hard we try, no matter how much we tell people it's wrong and no matter how much money we throw at the problem, it just won't go away.

Since the Nixon administration popularized this war — in the early '70s — the United States has thrown trillions of dollars into the drug war.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency has tried giving money to neighboring countries such as Colombia to help out our cause. It has employed what amounts to another army — the Coast Guard — to keep drugs from coming in by boat. But the question still persists, "What good is it doing?"

Drugs are as easy to get in California now as they ever were. In fact, when I was in high school, it was easier for people to get marijuana than it was to get beer. For many underage people, that is still the case. Just about everyone knows someone who knows someone.

The United States has lost the war on drugs and it makes absolutely no sense to continue fighting it in the same manner.

Over the weekend it was discovered that the DEA doesn't even know what it's up against. In what would otherwise be considered a successful bust, the DEA discovered that a single Colombian cocaine plantation was exporting into the United States what was previously thought to be the entire volume of the Colombian Drug Cartel. As it turns out, this plantation was shipping about 30 tons of cocaine a month into the United States.

Essentially, what is happening is very similar to the war on communism, only considerably more abstract. At least in that war, there were governments and a written doctrine to preach against. In this war, all we have are the words "just say no." We are told that all drugs are bad, that they fry our brains like eggs, that they cause people to go out and kill each other and that they make us go crazy.

The only bad guy is the "dealer" — the guy who always gives you the first one for free.

But in the real world, it's not that clear-cut.

Anyone who's tried drugs knows that most drugs aren't nearly as dangerous as they are taught to believe. They also know that most "dealers" aren't the sketchy looking character in a trench coat — they're often your neighbor or a friend.

Drugs are not good, per se. Drugs have the potential to do irreparable damage and harm to your life and those around you.

Most people also know that too much of a good thing is a bad thing.

It's time the U.S. government stopped throwing good money after bad and quit while it's ahead. Ending the war on drugs would not be popular, it would not be widely accepted, but it would allow money to go toward things that might be able to do some real good.

The money saved on ending the war on drugs as we know it and the subsequent taxing of some legalized drugs such as marijuana could be put toward rehabilitation and education.

At least then we'd know what we were fighting.

Jeremiah Oshan is the Spartan Daily executive editor. "Prophecies" appears Tuesdays.

### Opinion page policies

Readers are encouraged to express themselves on the Opinion page with a letter to the editor. A letter to the editor is a 200-word response to an issue or point of view that has appeared in the Spartan Daily.

Submissions become the property of the Spartan Daily and may be edited for clarity, grammar, libel and length. Submissions must contain the author's name, address, phone number, signature and major.

Submissions may be put in the Letters to the Editor box at the Spartan Daily Office in Dwight Bentel Hall Room 209, sent by fax to (408) 924-3237, e-mail at SDAILY@mc.sjsu.edu or mailed to the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, San Jose State University, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0149.

Editorials are written by, and are the consensus of, the Spartan Daily editors, not the staff.

Published opinions and advertisements do not necessarily reflect the views of the Spartan Daily, the School of Journalism and Mass Communications or SJSU.

### So, what are you doing for New Year's Eve?

The Spartan Daily wants to know how you plan to celebrate the end of the century. Tell us your plans by e-mail at sdaily@mc.sjsu.edu, attn: opinion editor. A list of the party plans will be published Dec. 6, 1999. No names will be included.

### Today

#### Nutrition and Food Science Department

Body composition analysis, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the Central Classroom building, Room 221. For more information, call James Burke at 924-3377.

#### Muslim Student Association

Islamic presence in Latin America, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Costanoan room, Student Union. For more information, call Emal Numan at 971-8347.

#### American Library Association Student Chapter

"Networked Reference and Information Services," a presentation by Steve Coffman, Los Angeles County Public Libraries, 7 p.m. in the Engineering building auditorium, Room 189. For more information, call David Cismowski at 998-8316.

#### School of Art and Design

Student galleries art exhibitions, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; receptions, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., in the Art and Industrial Studies buildings. For more information, call John or Jenny at 924-4330.

#### School of Art and Design

Tuesday night lecture series: Billy Curmano, Minneapolis-based performance artist, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Art building, Room 133. For more information, call Andy at 924-4328.

#### SJSU Artique

Artique staff arts and crafts, member meeting, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in Sweeney Hall, Room 313. For more information, call Maria Romo at 924-2592.

#### Counseling Services

Ongoing support for students taking or considering taking medications for concerns such as depression, anxiety, OCD, etc., 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Administration

#### SJSU Ice Skating Club

First club meeting with adult skate night afterward, 7 p.m. at the Ice Center of San Jose, 10th and Alma streets. For more information, call Sandra Schaad at 530-1858.

#### College of Science

Free lecture: "The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence: Science Fact, Not Fiction," with Jill Tarter, chair for SETI and director of Project Phoenix, 7 p.m. in Morris Dailey Auditorium. For more information, call Mimi Bini at 924-5281 or Michael Kaufman at 924-5250.

#### Nurses Christian Fellowship

Bible discussion: "Character of Caring People," 12:30 p.m. in the Montalvo room, 2 p.m. in the

## Sparta Guide

building, Room 222B. For more information, call Jill Steinberg or Christie Fukunaga at 924-5910.

Pacheco room, Student Union. For more information, call Diane Stegmeyer at 279-6385.

#### Mosaic

"Connecting Globally: Networking for Success," with Kenneth Jackson, President/CEO of Innetix, Inc., 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Umunhum room, Student Union. For more information, call the Multicultural Center at 924-6255.

#### Catholic Campus Ministry

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults interested in becoming committed Catholic Christians, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Campus Ministry Center, 300 S. 10th St. For more information, call the Rev. Bob Barry at 938-1610.

#### Career Center

Résumé preparation workshop, 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. in Building F.

For more information, call the Career Resource Center at 924-6031.

#### Marketing Association

Teresa Ruggerio from Student Advantage will discuss tips on online marketing, 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Almaden room, Student Union. For more information, call Arlene Diwa at 870-2086.

#### KSJS Sports Presents

Volleyball at St. Mary's College, 6:45 p.m. on 90.5. For more information, call Shannon Wright at 924-4578.

#### Child Development Club

Mandatory club meeting for graduating seniors, 3:30 p.m. in the Central Classroom building, Room 118. For more information, call Michelle Anderson at 378-8239.

#### Golden Key National Honor Society

Orientation: Get your questions answered and watch video of

national convention, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Pacifica room, Student Union. For more information, e-mail Meesha Puri at mpuri44@hotmail.com.

#### SJSU Panhellenic Sororities

"Apple Polishing" Scholarship dinner, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom. For more information, call Lindsay Martin at 294-5520.

#### Auteur — International Film Appreciation Society

Free film: Jackie Chan in "Drunken Master II," 6 p.m. in Sweeney Hall, Room 100. For more information, call Jingwan Chang at 287-0466.

Sparta Guide is provided free of charge to students, faculty and staff. The deadline for entries is noon, three days before desired publication date. Entry forms are available in the Spartan Daily Office. Space restrictions may require editing of submissions. Entries are printed in the order in which they are received.



## Insurance

Continued from pg 1

covered under your parents' insurance and when you get your own through a job," said Alfonso De Alba, A.S. executive director.

Jaya Shukla, a senior majoring in human resources, transferred to San Jose State University in 1997 and has never used the Health Center. She said she wouldn't be interested in purchasing student insurance, and she suggested the mandatory \$55 health fee be optional specifically because of students in a similar situation as hers.

"I've never been to the Health Center because I have my own insurance through work," she said.

For students who need the insurance offered through A.S., the cost for annual coverage increased from \$380 last year to the current cost of \$445.

According to De Alba, the insurance company gives \$15 back to SJSU for every student who enrolls.

"We don't need to ask students for money. This is truly a service. We just turn the money around back to services," he said.

De Alba said about 400 students are currently enrolled in the insurance program, but he expects about 1,000 to be enrolled by the end of the year.

He said the number of students enrolled increases throughout the year as students turn 23 — the age at which most insurance companies determine children ineligible for coverage under their parents' plan.

As soon as someone opts for the student insurance plan and makes the payment, he or she is covered as of 12:01 a.m. the next morning, De Alba said.

"The key place you go to for your general cold or flu is here (SJSU Health Center). When you need surgery, then we use this plan," he said.

Those who do enroll use the Health Center for basic services and get a list of hospitals they can visit when their needs exceed the services offered by the center. It covers 100 percent of hospital expenses — up to \$50,000 — and generally 80 percent of all other expenses, such as surgeon's fees and ambulance services. The student is responsible for the other 20 percent.

Junior Matthew Cocchi, a nursing major, signed up for the student insurance last semester, and he said he ended up getting denied coverage he thought should have been available.

"I bought insurance through the college, and it's useless," he

said. "I had to go to the emergency room, and I had to pay for it myself."

Cocchi said he had to pay for medical services because he didn't go to a hospital on the list provided by the student insurance company. He said he felt it should have been covered because it was an emergency situation.

According to De Alba, there have been about three or four complaints concerning the student insurance in the last year, and he said as soon as students inform A.S. of the problem, he will try to help.

"You complain to everybody you can to get what you need," he said. "If they give you the run-around, then you come to me."

De Alba said although SJSU has a three-year contract with the student insurance, he will find another one if that company's services are inadequate.

"If there is a large number of

each month, according to Miller, could opt for Blue Cross' no deductible plan for \$47 a month. This plan requires a \$40 payment for doctor visits and 35 percent of all additional services.

"The \$40 co-pay plan is the most popular plan right now," Miller said.

Kaiser is another popular plan for some students for its "personal advantage" coverage. Amanda Ramos, a member services representative for Kaiser, said the rates for the plan are based on a person's age and what city they live in. She said for anyone under 30 who lives in Northern California, medical services would be \$91 a month.

"I get a lot of calls from students," she said. "Their main question is whether they get a discount because they're students, and I have to tell them 'no.'"

Although there are no student

**"I get a lot of calls from students. Their main question is whether they get a discount because they're students, and I have to tell them 'no.'"**

— Amanda Ramos

Kaiser member services representative

complaints coming in about the services of the entity, I would open up the contract right now and start looking at bids," he said.

Cocchi said because of the problems he had with the student insurance last semester, he switched to Blue Cross.

"I did a lot of research since I've had this problem," he said.

Blue Cross, according to Cocchi, offered adequate services at a good price, and most importantly, he's never heard complaints about it.

Alan Miller is a chartered life underwriter, which means he's an independent insurance broker. Currently, he represents about 20 health insurance companies. He agreed with Cocchi, saying Blue Cross offers good plans for students. While it doesn't offer any special rates, it does have a basic plan for \$21 a month, which only covers things that occur in the hospital. After a \$1,000 deductible, Blue Cross' basic plan covers 80 percent of the next \$10,000 and 100 percent beyond that — up to \$5 million.

"This particular plan is for someone who's naked insurance-wise," Miller said.

A student with a little more money to spend on insurance

rates, Ramos said about 35 to 40 percent of people covered by "personal advantage" are under 30. She credited that number of people to the low rates.

"Rates are based on your age and what city you live in," she said. "The fact that you're a student — they really don't look at that."

According to Ramos, the \$91 a month will cover 100 percent of all hospital fees and requires a \$15 payment for office visits, \$10 for prescriptions and \$5 for X-rays and laboratory work.

According to Theresa Nelson, a supervisor at Santa Clara county's Department of Employment and Benefits, there are some county programs that can help the students who find health insurance too expensive.

"The county is sort of the course of last resort," she said. "Anybody who needs treatment should go ahead and apply for Medi-Cal ... Even if we can't help you, we can pass you along to those who can."

Medi-Cal is designed to help certain groups of people, Nelson said, such as those who are 65 or older, disabled or 21 or younger. She said students under the age of 21 should be eligible for Medi-Cal, while those who are older are

eligible for the "ability to pay" program.

"The ability to pay program is specifically designed for people that can't get Medi-Cal," she said.

Once in the "ability to pay" program, a division of the county's social services agency determines the amount a person can afford to pay for medical services based on that person's individual circumstances. The program then charges accordingly.

Medi-Cal and ability to pay patients go to Valley Medical Center, Nelson said. The hospital, which is a county facility, is not allowed to turn anybody away.

According to Miller, students have two choices: Either take the student insurance and hope the \$50,000 maximum for hospital expenses would be enough, or enroll in Blue Cross' basic plan for \$21 a month for hospital coverage, and use the Health Center on campus for regular doctor visits.

"Because everyone pays it, but not everybody uses it, that gives a bigger revenue. And that's why we can offer so many things for free," Latta said.

Junior Paul Phillips said he has no problem with paying the fee because he doesn't have any other insurance.

"I don't mind paying it because that way I know it's there for me," he said.

Essentially, the \$55 fee that Phillips and every other student pays allows two types of services for students.

Basic services, such as seeing a physician because of flu or cold symptoms, contraception counseling and care or sexually transmitted disease checks are covered at no charge to students.

"I suppose when I get sick, I'll go in there — if not, I'll just get through it," Phillips said.

If Phillips wanted specialty services, however, he couldn't get through it without paying a fee for service. Latta said the fees students have to pay for augmented services, such as allergy, dermatology and podiatry are usually about \$10.

## Vaccine

Continued from pg 1

however, the disease can be fatal, Latta warned.

The Health Center offers a vaccine to students who may have been exposed to meningococcal meningitis, Latta said.

The vaccine costs \$65 for students, which is more than students pay each semester for their student health fees. The Health Center is nonprofit and does not charge more than what it costs them to get the materials.

Balbina Perez, a junior studying health science, was concerned about the seriousness of the disease and was relieved to learn that the Health Center offers the vaccine.

"Is it free?" asked Perez, who lives on campus.

The Health Center is working with the Peer Health Education Center on campus to inform students of the risks of meningitis.

The best way to prevent infection is to inform people of the risks, Latta said.

"If they did a special on it on 'Dawson's Creek,' I'm sure we'd all know about it," Enriquez said, acknowledging that students living in the residence halls are

unaware of the risks of meningitis.

On Oct. 6 Latta gave a presentation to students living in the residence halls to increase their awareness of the disease.

The television news magazine "20/20" aired a special on meningitis, telling the story of Melanie Benn, a freshman at Humboldt State University who contracted the disease.

Over winter break she returned home from school sick and exhausted, but thought she had the flu.

Benn's symptoms turned out to be meningitis. Doctors were able to kill the bacteria that caused the infection, but it had already gotten into her bloodstream.

The clotting spread up her arms and legs and gangrene set in.

To save her life, Benn's arms had to be amputated below the elbows, and her legs had to be amputated from the knees down.

Latta encouraged students to view Benn's case as an example of what could happen to them.

If anyone experiences flu-like symptoms that persist, Latta recommends seeing a doctor.

Enriquez said she definitely would vaccine to students who may have been exposed to meningococcal meningitis, Latta said.

## Tarter

Continued from pg 1

somewhere in the galaxy, he said.

"The only viable way to communicate (long distance) is to use something that travels at the speed of light, like radio waves," Kaufman said.

He said if reasonable calculations are made, it is very unlikely aliens have ever been here.

The lecture is sponsored by the Harlow Shapley Visiting Lectureship Program of the American Astronomical Society and the SJSU department of physics.

"Part of the reason for this visit is to promote astronomy as

a major for the university," Kaufman said.

SJSU does not currently offer a major or minor degree in astronomy, he said.

There will be a small reception for Tarter by invitation only prior to the lecture, said Mimi Bini, a development assistant in the College of Science at SJSU.

Tarter is currently the director for Project Phoenix. The project is privately funded by the SETI Institute. In 1997 she was appointed the Bernard M. Oliver chair for the Search For Extraterrestrial Intelligence, which searches for evidence of distant technologies.

How to ruin the moment #28

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# ENTERTAINMENT

San Jose State University

## O'Neill's 'Desire' gets run at S.J. Rep

By Clarissa Aljentera  
Daily staff writer

Abbie immediately declares her forbidden love for Eben, but finds opposition from her husband, Ephraim, regarding their torrid affair.

Ephraim (Gerry Bamman) recently married Abbie (Kimiko Gelman) and moved her to his farm. When she arrived, she set her eyes upon Eben (Matthew Miller) and the trouble began.

All three characters are in the play "Desire Under the Elms," written by Eugene O'Neill and directed by Michael Butler. The play is currently being performed at the San Jose Repertory Theatre until Nov. 21.

The play takes an in-depth look at a forbidden love between a stepmother and her stepson. This relationship isn't found too often in the '90s and is an interesting look into the lives of people who struggle for power.

"Desire Under the Elms" is set in 1850 at a farm in New England. The farm is tended by Ephraim and his boys, Simeon (Brian Keith Russell), Peter (Michael Ray Wisely) and Eben.

The stage was set up in such a way that the front of the oval-shaped stage was covered in dirt, giving it a realistic feel for a farm. On the back left corner of the

stage, a gigantic tree trunk towered over the back of the stage and helped set many outdoor scenes when the lovers were swept away in their romance. A wooden frame was the backdrop for the family farmhouse at times and overshadowed the actors.

The secret romance between Abbie and Eben is a cover up to everyone, but especially for

### Theater Review

times. It is similar to Sigmund Freud's Oedipus complex, when the son desires to sleep with his mother, just as Eben and Abbie

**The play takes an in-depth look at a forbidden love between a stepmother and her stepson.**

Ephraim.

When Abbie and Eben meet, they do so in secret in a sealed off room of the house. The room was originally Eben's mother's, until she passed away.

Eben has haunted thoughts about his mother and believes that she watches him at all times. Abbie dispels thoughts about his mother early on and insists they stay together.

The attraction between Eben and Abbie seems forbidden at all

do. In the '90s, that type of relationship normally wouldn't take place.

Eben is smitten by Abbie and wants to please her all the time. He wants control of the farm and the only way he can get it is through Abbie. Abbie asks for the farm in exchange for a son for Ephraim.

Ephraim will give his property up for a son. The struggle for power ends in a death on the farm. Throughout the play and

Abbie's child and confession the emotions run strong between all characters. Eben is head over heels in love with Abbie, and Abbie is more aware of the control she has over the two men than an actual relationship.

She pleads for Eben's love and gets it. She pleads for his forgiveness but falls short in the end.

Miller and Gelman tug at heartstrings at every opportunity they get.

The mother son-like relationship is convincing at times and deceitful at others. Yet, the audience can get a close look into a family relationship when the mother gains too much control.

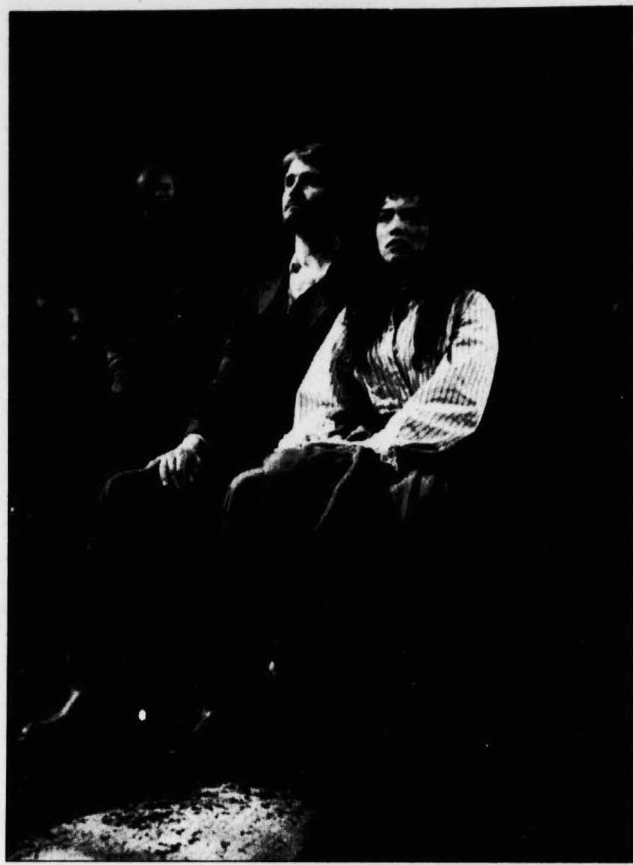


Photo by Pat Kirk of San Jose Repertory Theatre

(Left to right) Gerry Bamman, Matthew Miller and Kimiko Gelman perform a scene from "Desire Under the Elms," a play written by Eugene O'Neill. The play runs through Nov. 21 at the San Jose Repertory Theatre in downtown San Jose.

### THEATER FACTS

**"Desire Under the Elms"**  
Written by Eugene O'Neill  
Directed by Michael Butler  
Sets by Giulio Cesare Perrone  
Costumes by B. Modern  
Lighting design by Peter Maradudin  
With Gerry Bamman, Brian Keith Russell, Michael Ray Wisely, Matthew Miller and Kimiko Gelman  
Now playing at the San Jose Repertory Theatre in downtown San Jose

## Pet Shop Boys love 'Nightlife'

By Daniel Severin  
Daily staff writer

The Pet Shop Boys make dance music that makes you think even as it moves you onto the dance floor.

Their fusion of hip, modern beats and downtempo lyrics make creative, catchy songs that appeal to a diverse, loyal audience of fans.

On their latest CD, the Pet Shop Boys take you on a tour through the murky world of the "Nightlife" that does not disappoint.

Though they are best known for their 1985 hit "West End Girls," the duo of Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe has released five albums over the past 15 years that have transformed the European underground club scene.

They have amalgamated such diverse influences as synth pop, techno and Latin into trademark melancholy songs on their previous records, a tradition that is continued on their new album.

"Nightlife" finds the duo blending New York house beats with soothing strings and poignant, soul-searching lyrics. On "Happiness Is an Option" and "Boy Strange," the listener is drawn into a sad and beautiful world where it is easy to dance your cares away, at least until tomorrow.

Not every track is impressive in its own right, but the album as a

### CD Review

whole flows very well. The new songs work together over the course of the album to tell a story about spending a night out in a dance club.

The duo of singer Tennant and keyboardist Lowe crafted a trademark sound on their first two albums, "Please" and "Actually." "Nightlife" never strays too far from their tried-and-true formula, but there are hints of modern electronica and house beats that show they have progressed.

The disc starts off with "For Your Own Good," with the singer begging a friend to call him. The complexity of relationships is described in the lines "Life isn't easy, so why don't you stay / With the lover you need and not the devil you pay?"

On "I Don't Know What You Want but I Can't Give it Anymore," Tennant sings a very danceable tale of heartbreak caused by a failed relationship. The inherent irony of the Pet Shop Boys' music is that they manage to set such sad words to cutting edge dance rhythms that make it tough to notice how sad the songs are.

"Radiophonic" sets the feeling of falling in lust with a stranger met



Cover courtesy of Sire Records

on the dance floor to a retro-sounding Euro club beat. This is the only song on the disc that doesn't really work, for the words seem silly and clash with the catchy beat.

"In Denial" is the band's most openly gay statement on record to date, and is also one of "Nightlife's" finest tracks. The song is a duet with Kylie Minogue, a highly underrated pop singer who is best known for the '80s hit "Locomotion." A mellow beat mixes with orchestral strings arranged by composer Craig Armstrong, who has worked with Massive Attack, Bjork and Mono.

"New York City Boy," a house collaboration with producer David Morales, leads the listener into the decadent underworld of the city by night. Using the seedy nightlife to escape from difficult situations at home is the theme of this song, the most club-friendly on the album.

The album comes to a close with "Footsteps," a slow ballad about late nights spent waiting for a lover to come home. Like most of their albums, "Nightlife" ends on a sad note that brings the listener back to reality.

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# SPORTS

San Jose State University

## Olympic road's long process

By Charmain Smith  
Daily staff writer

Four San Jose State University students may be spending their summer in Sydney, Australia — not to vacation, but for a chance at winning a gold medal in judo at the 2000 Olympics.

Junior Rosi Bartkowski, a computer science major; junior David Camarillo, a criminal justice major; senior Amy Tong, a biology major; and senior Johan Hult, a business major are among eight to 10 Olympic hopefuls affiliated with the SJSU judo team, assistant coach Dave Williams said.

Earning a chance to compete in the Olympics takes a lot of time and effort, and the process of qualifying can be hard, Bartkowski said.

Bartkowski was 12 years old when she first began taking judo.

"After a year I was hooked and planning on trying to make it to the 2004 Olympics," Bartkowski said. "If I make it in 2000, then it gives me a chance of meeting my goal that much earlier."

According to Williams, Bartkowski is currently trailing a half point behind the person in the No. 1 position in her weight division of 48 kilograms.

To qualify for the Olympics, athletes can either qualify their country or themselves in a variety of ways, Williams said.

The first way to qualify your country is to place in the top seven positions in your weight category at the World Championships, which are held every two years. There are seven different weight categories, so placing in the top seven of any weight category automatically qualifies the country as a whole. This is known as qualifying outside of your union.

If an athlete does not place in the top seven positions of their weight category, then he or she must qualify within his or her union based on the most acquired points.

SJSU students compete in the Pan-American union, which consists of all countries from Canada to Brazil.

Points are acquired at the Pan-American Championships held every year, and at the Pan-American Games held every four years. The five countries with the most points in men's judo and three countries with the most points in women's judo qualify for the Olympics.

If a country has already earned a spot in the Olympics by qualifying outside of the union, then the next country with the most points will be chosen.

There are two methods in the United States for individuals to qualify as a representative for the Olympics.

The first method is to be No. 1 in their weight division going into the World Championships, and then place in the top seven at the World Championships.

The second method is if an athlete is not No. 1 in their weight division going into the World Championships, but places in the top seven at the World Championships, then that athlete qualifies the country but not themselves.

Then, the person who is in first place will battle it out with the person in second place until the close of Nationals on Jan. 1, 2000 for the right to represent his or her country.

At that point, whoever is in the No. 1 position will go to the Olympics.

"The process of qualifying is confusing," Camarillo said. "I didn't know about it until a few days ago when Coach Williams went over it with me."

Camarillo said he's third in points in his weight division of 73 kilograms and will be traveling to Korea for a tournament in hopes of acquiring more points before the Jan. 1 deadline.

"My dad got me into judo," Camarillo said. "It's always been a family dream for me to make it to the Olympics."



Robert Bradshaw / Spartan Daily

Kaz Marimoto converses with fellow San Jose State University judo team member David Camarillo, who is taking a break from practice due to a bruised shin. Camarillo

received the injury while competing in a tournament in Canada, where he took first place in his weight division.

## Judo

Continued from pg 1

biggest goal, so you go where the rest are. You get the best practice out of here," said mother Genevieve Tanaka-Dias, who sat comfortably against the wall doing paperwork while her son practiced.

As he is a few years from even trying out for the SJSU judo team, Dias is only beginning to reach and touch his Olympic dreams. The training that he does at SJSU, in addition to his fighting at the Buddhist Club, may put him at an advantage, though. Every time he fights a round with an SJSU judoka will be a measuring stick for him. One of these contests during the Nov. 4 practice showed how far he has come and how far he needs to go. During that fight he held on to his opponent's gi with everything he had. He jabbed his feet at his opponent, attempting various sweeping maneuvers, before he was gently thrown to the mat.

Every nudge he receives from SJSU judoka and coaches will push him closer to his dream, so Dias has no problem with them.

"Sometimes I think it's better for me," said Dias, who is more muscularly defined than most 14-year-olds. "It makes me tougher."

David Camarillo, who recently won the Canadian Open in the 73-kilogram division and is vying for a spot on the Olympic team, already sees the potential in Dias.

"That was just like me coming in about eight years ago," said Camarillo, who is a junior. "The guy sees a lot of good judo and everyone takes care of him too. Soon he'll be one of us, throwing everyone around," probably throwing me around."

When this happens, Dias will receive more than playful nudges from coaches and teammates. Williams may yell at him during a match or a practice for failing to execute a technique correctly. Rivalries may develop with teammates in his own weight class, and they will go at one another like tigers during practice. Or, he may go up against a hardened alumni who has come to practice, like one did Thursday night, to test his resolve as a fighter and torch-bearer of the tradition.

The dojo won't be the only place he will have to fight, either.

Though his dreams are set upon judo, he will have to prove himself in the classroom as well.

"They (recruits) have to understand that our priority is on education, not on judo," Williams said.

When he comes to SJSU he will realize that SJSU's priority isn't on judo either. Because judo is not recognized as a sport by the NCAA, and it receives very little financial support from SJSU's athletic department, judoka don't receive scholarships, Williams said.

Push will turn to shove as he tries to find ways to pay for tuition, books and his trips to tournaments around the world.

Dias won't receive any sympathy for his physical injuries either. In a sport where injury is commonplace, judoka don't have access to the healing hands of SJSU trainers or the whirlpools at the Simpkins Center. The team doesn't even own an ice machine.

Dias will have to fight in spite of nagging injuries if he wants to become an Olympian.

Olympic hopeful Amy Tong, for instance, continues to fight in tournaments with an aching wrist. If she takes a rest someone may steal her spot on the Olympic team.

"It's tough," Camarillo said. "We're all out here, no money, but everyone is training really hard."

Judoka face a similarly tough climate when they travel overseas to compete. Judoka must compete in international tournaments and attend international camps if they are to step into Olympic form, Williams said. Once there, they face fighters

who will want to test SJSU's pride and reputation, and referees who are biased against Americans.

Although Dias will have to endure many more shoves before he has the chance to make it to the Olympics, he appeared up to the challenge Thursday. He wasn't laughing and horsing around

at any time. If he wasn't participating in a drill, he was watching everything that was happening.

"You can see it in his eyes. He loves it and he trains real hard," Camarillo said. "That's good potential."

After practice, the wide-eyed Dias bowed with the rest of the

class and then slid his spectacles on.

When he left Yoshihiro Uchida Hall, his focus changed. He and his mother walked across Fourth Street to Pizza A Go Go where he feasted those big brown eyes on a slice of pizza.

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